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April 14, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Ex Parte Notice – MM Docket No. 02-277**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 11, 2003, I met with Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy and Stacy Robinson to discuss the need for adoption of the 25% Independent Producer Rule to further the FCC's mandate to promote program diversity and competition in the narrow prime time television programming marketplace.

Subjects discussed during this briefing included: the current status of the narrow prime time television programming marketplace; the advertising marketplace for prime time television programming; the 25% Independent Producer Rule proposed by the Coalition for Program Diversity; the judicial sustainability of the 25% Independent Producer Rule; and the public interest benefits from the Commission's adoption of the 25% Independent Producer Rule. The attached summary was used during this meeting.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) this letter is being submitted for inclusion in the above referenced docket.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Gardner  
Counsel for the Coalition for Program Diversity

Attachment

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy  
Stacy Robinson, Legal Advisor Mass Media Issues